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GENERAL AND COMPLETE DISARMAMENT

Afghanistan, Georgia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Turkmenistan and Zimbabwe: revised draft resolution

Measures to curb the illicit transfer and use of conventional arms

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 46/36 H of 6 December 1991 and its decision 47/419 of 9 December 1992 on international arms transfers,

Recalling also its resolutions 48/75 F and H of 16 December 1993 and 49/75 M of 15 December 1994 on measures to curb illicit transfer and use of conventional arms,

Recognizing that the availability of massive quantities of conventional weapons and especially their illicit transfer, often associated with destabilizing activities, are most disturbing and dangerous phenomena, in particular for the internal situation of affected States and the violation of human rights,

Bearing in mind that in certain situations mercenaries, terrorists and child soldiers are supplied with weapons acquired from illicit transfers of conventional arms,

Convinced that peace and security are inextricably interlinked with and in some cases imperative for economic development and reconstruction, including in war-stricken countries,

Realizing the urgent need to resolve conflicts and to diminish tension, and to accelerate efforts towards general and complete disarmament with a view to maintaining regional and international peace and security,

Recognizing the curbing of the illicit transfer of arms as an important contribution to the relaxation of tension and peaceful reconciliation processes,

Stressing the need for effective national control measures on the transfer of conventional weapons,

Convinced that effective measures to curb illicit transfer and use of conventional arms will help enhance regional and international peace, security and economic development,

1. Invites Member States:

(a) To take appropriate and effective enforcement measures to seek to ensure that illicit transfers of arms are immediately discontinued;

(b) To provide the Secretary-General promptly with relevant information on national control measures on arms transfers with a view to preventing illicit arms transfers;

2. Requests the Disarmament Commission:

(a) To expedite its consideration of the agenda item on international arms transfers, with special emphasis on the adverse consequences of the illicit transfer of arms and ammunition;

(b) To study and report on measures to curb the illicit transfer and use of conventional arms, bearing in mind concrete problems in various regions of the world;

3. Requests the Secretary-General:

(a) To seek the views of Member States on effective ways and means of collecting weapons transferred illicitly, in particular in the light of experience gained by the United Nations;

(b) To seek the views of Member States on concrete proposals concerning measures at national, regional and international levels to curb the illicit transfer and use of conventional arms;

(c) To submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session a report containing the views expressed by Member States;

4. Also requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session on the effective implementation of the present resolution;

5. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session the item entitled "Measures to curb the illicit transfer and use of conventional arms".